

# Oriental rugs expensive but worth it

Nothing warms a room visually like the rich grain of a wood floor. If you are considering wood vis-a-vis carpet, the flooring will be a bit more. The wood, however, will pay back with lifelong service as well as beauty.

New polyurethane finishes and woods that are impregnated with plastic to ensure easy maintenance should dispel any concern for costly care.

If you are in a home with strip flooring, what you have is probably oak. If you should decide to show your floor, any number of finishes are available, from light to dark.

Area rugs are the most versatile and eye-catching of all floor coverings. Used atop wood or any hard surface, they can make your color statement. Area rugs should not be used over carpeting as they will ride. You can use a rug under a table where there is carpet.

AN AREA RUG CAN be more than an attention getter. It's also the easiest floor covering to use when

you want to visually separate one part of your house from another. For example, if you have a living-dining room combination, the area rug used in the conversation grouping will separate it from the dining area.

If you are interested in purchasing the best quality possible but are concerned about your budget, area rugs give you an excellent way to invest in top-of-the-line floor covering.

Antique Orientals are the aristocrats of area rugs and command prices in the tens of thousands of dollars. Why are they so expensive? Rarely and craftsmanship command the price. An Oriental is a one-of-a-kind work of art. Buying one is a truly wise investment.

Oriental rugs are by definition handmade, either knotted or flat woven. Understanding how an Oriental is made lets you recognize the difference between an authentic Oriental rug or a machine-made rug with an Oriental design. One good way to distinguish is to examine the fringe. In a genuine Oriental, it's an extension



## designing ways

Eve Garvin

of the warp threads. In machine-made rugs, the fringe is sewn on and is not an integral part of the rug's body.

Your best source for Orientals is a reputable, established dealer. One of these is Azar's in Birmingham. They have a wonderful collection from Turkey, Iran, Pakistan and China. They will let you take a rug home for a trial period, and you should take

advantage of this. In that way, you will be able to see how the rug looks in your room and have plenty of time to examine it.

Eve Garvin has been an interior designer in the area for many years. She welcomes comments and questions from readers. Send those to her in care of this newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia 48150.

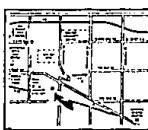
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## Theme miniconcert offered

Tickets are now on sale for the all-new Friday Night miniconcert series by a chamber group of the Livonia Symphony (formerly the Oakway Symphony) which will be held in the Livonia Civic Center Library auditorium beginning in this month.

Three concerts — all with special themes — will be featured. Opening the series will be Italian Night on Jan. 13; Viennese Night on Feb. 10; and American Night on March 10.

The symphony chamber group is under the direction of Francesco Di Biasi.

The Viennese Night will honor the

late DSO conductor Antal Dorati's "La Vite Parisienne." Other selections will be "Ein Killeme Nach Misk" by Mozart; Strauss "Die Fledermaus," and a singalong of tunes from the Rodgers-Hammerstein production, "Sound of Music."

Among the selections to be featured at the March 10 All-American concert will be "Outdoor Overture" by Copland; "Adagio for Strings" by Barber; Scott Joplin's "Ragtime for Brass," and selections from the musical "West Side Story."

Tickets are priced at \$24 for the series, or \$8.50 individually. Special series rate of \$12 is offered students and seniors, with \$5 for individual tickets. Tickets are now on sale at the Civic Center Library, Hammett Music Store on Middlebelt Road, Madonna College. Tickets may also be purchased by sending a check to LSO, 30499 Plymouth Road, Livonia 48154.

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